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NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Shannon Connolly, chief push, 543-8049, or Amanda Schmidt, publicity, 829-1392.

UM FORESTERS' BALL TICKETS ON SALE DEC. 8-10

MISSOULA —

Advance tickets for The University of Montana's 83rd Annual Foresters' Ball, "Logging Boots and Union Suits," go on sale Dec. 8-10 in the University Center. The sought-after tickets won't be available again until the week of the ball, Jan. 31-Feb. 4.

Tickets cost \$20 per couple in advance and \$25 at the door. One of campus's most anticipated traditional events, the ball raises money for student scholarships and loans. For more information, call Foresters' Ball publicity coordinator Amanda Schmidt at 829-1392.

The ball will be held Friday and Saturday, Feb. 4-5, from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. in Schreiber Gym. By that time UM's ROTC gym will resemble an 1860s logging town, complete with a church, chow hall, general store and more. People will enjoy music by Wild Bill and the Rebels Without Applause, as well as all the chili and soft drinks one can consume for the price of a kiss.

A week of festivities leading up to the ball begins Sunday, Jan. 30, when the tracks of Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox will be painted from Higgins and University avenues to many parts of campus.

Monday, Jan. 31, will be Boondocker's Day," an event that includes an old-time logging competition pitting students and faculty against one another in a variety of events.

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One highlight is a cow-chip-throwing contest between forestry Dean Perry Brown and law school Dean Ed Ecks from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Construction of the ball begins Tuesday, Feb. 1, when the flooring is put down, and will continue all week.

Those wishing to attend the ball for free should be on the UM Oval at noon on Wednesday, Feb. 2, when free tickets and ball-related prizes will be dropped from a helicopter. (Ball tickets are in high demand, and there is quite a scramble for them.)

The ball officially kicks off Friday, Feb. 4, with a noon ribbon-cutting ceremony at the gym entrance. An alumni mixer will take place the next day in the gym at noon.

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